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THE FARM CALENDAR

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A radio talk delivered by Mr. W. R. Beattie, Bureau of Plant Industry, through Station WRC and 32 other stations associated with the National Broadcasting Company, December 12, 1929 at 1:10 p. m. Eastern Standard Time.

Hog Losses from Pneumonia and Hog "Flu."

I won't be giving many of you farmers in the Central Western States any news when I pass on the information recently given out by the Bureau of Animal Industry that a large number of hogs has been lost this year since the onset of cold weather.

But it may be news to some of you, however, that your losses probably were due to pneumonia and hog "flu," rather than to hog cholera.

Dr. U. G. Houck, in charge of hog-cholera control work, tells us that a good many cases of these diseases are mistaken for hog cholera. He goes on to point out that losses of swine from pneumonia and "flu" can be largely prevented by providing dry shelter for the animals to protect them from exposure to cold wind, rain, sleet, and snow. He explains it this way:

"Causes of these diseases so common in the fall and winter months usually follow a period of mild weather when the animals run out or are allowed to bed in the open. The first cold rain or snow nearly always results in a number of sick animals, but this year the loss has been greater than usual, especially in the Central Western States. In many cases the animals would not go into shelters unless they were driven, while others slept in damp bedding or drafty sheds.

"When permanent hog houses are lacking, comfortable quarters can usually be provided at small cost by the use of the portable A-type houses or other shelter which will protect hogs against drafts, undue dampness and exposure. Even an open-front shed having a tight roof and sides will often afford sufficient protection. The use of dry bedding also helps to prevent illness."

So, if your herd shows such symptoms as -- little appetite, spasmodic breathing, sudden prostration of a large number of the herd, fits of coughing, swollen eyes, perhaps a discharge from the nose -- be prompt to house and care for the animals, and get veterinary advice.

FUR LAWS

At this time of the year many of those living on farms become interested in the capture of fur-bearing animals. The fur on these animals is much more valuable in winter time than it is in summer. I know that many thousands of you enjoy hunting and trapping. In the old days one could hunt freely wherever he happened to be, but now nearly all of the States have laws governing the hunting and trapping of fur-bearing animals. Those of you who do intend to hunt or trap any fur-bearing animals this winter will find it to your advantage to send for Farmers' Bulletin No. 1-6-1-8, the title of which is "FUR LAWS FOR THE SEASON 1929-30." It gives very briefly a summary of the fur laws of the United States and of each of the States.

